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Date: Jun 28, 2007 13:47  
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Subj: Jordan Lake Nutrient rules

Jordan Lake is serving as a drinking water reservoir even though it was paid for as a flood control structure. The amount of polluted runoff reaching this drinking water source is far too high and much more rigorous measures should be taken to reduce stormwater runoff both during construction where soil is disturbed and then on an ongoing basis. There are many biologically based control systems such as rain gardens that can trap and filter polluted runoff from parking lots, roads, rooftops, etc. These and other approaches to controlling runoff should be mandated, Silt fences don't do the job during construction. Curb and gutter to get water off the street into a storm drain as quickly as possible has to have something downstream to filter and slow the flow. The wastewater treatment plants delivering large portions of the flow of the Haw could do much better, especially in terms of phosphorous removal. OWASA's plant has shown it can be done with current technology.

Much more needs to be done to reduce agricultural and lawn chemicals and fertilizer runoff. I can't even begin to address the particulars of that. For agriculture, going more organic makes sense as does having barriers and buffers at receiving streams. For the suburban lawn, the array of cultural choices should be broader, Let's not dawdle. time to protect our drinking water is now. Thanks for listening Blair Pollock  
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